Message Text

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CONFIDENTIAL USNATO 1214

SECDEF FOR DDR&E, ODTACCS AND ASD(I&L)

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: NATO, ETEL, MARR

SUBJECT: AC/297-D/24, REPORT BY WORKING GROUP 1

REF: (A) AC/297-D/24 DATED 8 FEB 77; (B) USNATO 0713 DTG 091730Z FEB 77; (C) STATE 37761 DTG 181933Z FEB 77

- 1. REFERENCE A, THE REPORT BY THE VICE-CHAIRMAN OF WORKING GROUP 1 ON COMMUNICATIONS OF THE AD HOC COMMITTEE ON EQUIPMENT INTEROPERABILITY, WAS DISTRIBUTED TO WASHINGTON BY THE NATO CENTRAL REGISTRY.
- 2. AT THE NEXT MEETING OF THE AD HOC COMMITTEE ON 16 MAR 77, THE COMMITTEE MEMBERS WILL DISCUSS SUBJECT REPORT. BY REF B WE REPORTED ON THE DIFFERENCE OF OPINION DESCRIBED IN THE REPORT CONCERNING THE APPROPRIATE REFERENCE TO THE RESPONSIBLE BODY WITHIN THE CNAD THAT WILL CONDUCT THE WORK NECESSARY TO ACHIEVE INTEROPERABILITY OF TACTICAL AREA COMMUNICATIONS. REF C PROVIDED GUIDANCE FOR THE US POSITION.

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- 3. THE BELGIAN DELEGATION HAS RECOMMENDED A CHANGE TO THE TERMS OF REFERENCE FOR THE STUDY ON THE MEASURES NECESSARY TO ASSURE THE INTEROPERABILITY OF NEW TACTICAL RADIO EQUIPMENT (REF A, ANNEX II). SPECIFICALLY, BELGIUM PROPOSES TO ADD TO PARA 5(F) OF ANNEX II QUOTE AND ELECTROMAGNETIC COMPATIBILITY WITH OTHER EQUIPMENT END QUOTE.
- 4. ALTHOUGH ELECTROMAGNETIC COMPATIBILITY (EMC) OF NEW TACTICAL NET RADIOS WITH OTHER EQUIPMENT IS NECESSARY,

WE FEAR THE BELGIAN PROPOSAL, IF ACCEPTED AND EMPHASIZED, COULD COMPLICATE AND DELAY COMPLETION OF THE STUDY. FURTHER, SINCE EMC CAN BE VERIFIED ONLY BY EXTENSIVE TESTING, WE DOUBT MANY OF THE NATIONS DESIRE OR CAN AFFORD SUCH TESTING.

5. WE BELIEVE THAT IT WOULD BE UNWISE FOR THE US TO OPPOSE INCLUDING EMC CONSIDERATIONS IN THE WORKING GROUP'S TASKS, BUT WE ALSO BELIEVE THAT THE BELGIAN AMENDMENT COULD CREAT PROBLEMS IN THE FUTURE. THE AD HOC COMMITTEE, HOWEVER, IS NOT THE PROPER GROUP TO DISCUSS THE TECHNICAL ISSUES INVOLVED. THEREFORE, WE RECOMMEND THAT THE US MEMBER PROPOSE THAT THE AD HOC COMMITTEE:

A. NOTE AND ENDORSE THE BELGIAN CONCERN OVER EMC.
B. INSTRUCT WG/1 TO INCLUDE EMC CONSIDERATIONS IN AN APPROPRIATE MANNER IN ITS FORMULATION OF STANDARDS AND SPECIFICATIONS FOR FUTURE COMBAT NET RADIOS.

6. ACTION REQUESTED: WASHINGTON GUIDANCE BY COB 11 MARCH. STRAUSZ-HUPE

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